IN THE CLAIMS

1-37.   (canceled)

38.   (currently amended)   An expression cassette comprising a polynucleotide comprising a sequence encoding an Env polypeptide and having at least 90% ~~percent~~ identity to the full-length sequence of the nucleotide sequence SEQ ID NO:120.

39-77. (canceled)

78.   (currently amended)   A method of generating an immune response in a subject, comprising introducing an expression cassette comprising a polynucleotide comprising a sequence encoding an Env polypeptide and having at least 90% ~~percent~~ identity to the full-length sequence of the nucleotide sequence SEQ ID NO:120 into said subject under conditions that are compatible with expression of said expression cassette in said subject.

79.   (previously presented)   The method of claim 78, wherein said expression cassette is introduced using a gene delivery vector.

80.   (previously presented)   The method of claim 79, wherein the gene delivery vector is a non-viral vector.

81.   (previously presented)   The method of claim 79, wherein said gene delivery vector is a viral vector.

82.   (previously presented)   The method of claim 79, wherein said gene delivery vector is selected from the group consisting of an adenoviral vector, a vaccinia viral vector, an AAV vector, a retroviral vector, a lentiviral vector and an alphaviral vector.

83.   (previously presented)   The method of claim 82, wherein said gene delivery vector is a Sindbis-virus derived vector.

84.   (previously presented)   The method of claim 82, wherein said gene delivery vector is a cDNA vector.

85.   (previously presented)   The method of claim 82, wherein said gene delivery vector is a eukaryotic layered viral initiation system (ELVIS).

86.   (currently amended)   The method of claim 79, wherein said composition is delivered using a particulate carrier.

87.   (previously presented)   The method of claim 79, wherein said composition is coated on a gold or tungsten particle and said coated particle is delivered to said subject using a gene gun.

88.   (previously presented)   The method of claim 79, wherein said composition is encapsulated in a liposome preparation.

89.   (previously presented)   The method of claim 79, wherein said subject is a mammal.

90.   (previously presented)   The method of claim 89, wherein said mammal is a human.

91-97. (canceled)

98.   (currently amended)   The expression cassette of claim 38 wherein the sequence has at least 95% ~~percent~~ identity to the full-length sequence of the nucleotide sequence SEQ ID NO:120.

99.   (currently amended) The expression cassette of claim 38 wherein the sequence has at least 98% ~~percent~~ identity to the full-length sequence of the nucleotide sequence SEQ ID NO:120.

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100.   (previously presented)   The expression cassette of claim 38 wherein the sequence comprises the nucleotide sequence SEQ ID NO:120.

101.   (currently amended) The method of claim 78 wherein the sequence has at least 95% ~~percent~~ identity to the full-length sequence of the nucleotide sequence SEQ ID NO:120.

102.   (currently amended) The method of claim 78 wherein the sequence has at least 98% ~~percent~~ identity to the full-length sequence of the nucleotide sequence SEQ ID NO:120.

103.   (previously presented) The method of claim 78 wherein the sequence comprises the nucleotide sequence SEQ ID NO:120.